**Journalist:** Michelle Vaughn enjoys being with friends and family, it's just a part of who she is. But ever since she was diagnosed with psoriasis **in her teens**, she is conscious of the way she looks.

Michelle: It's ugly, it's an ugly, ugly disease.

**Journalist:** Psoriasis is a genetic skin condition that causes skin redness and irritation. Most people who suffer with psoriasis have very thick red skin, **silvery-white** patches called **scales**.

**Dermatologist:** A lot of body surface area is covered and affects what people can wear, what social events they can go to.

**Journalist:** Doctors say psoriasis occurs when the body's immune system mistakes healthy cells for dangerous substances. Although psoriasis is not dangerous, it can be associated with other health problems.

**Dermatologist:** So obesity, heart attack, stroke, high cholesterol, arthritis.

**Journalist:** The treatments range from topical creams to light therapy, to new injectable medications. Recently Michelle started giving herself a shot every two weeks and that's caused her psoriasis to disappear. She says **she's gotten over** her fear of needles because the drug has worked so well.

**Michelle:** I still have these habits that I developed every year that I cover it, and oh my God, I don't have to anymore.

## CNN.

in her teens = à l'adolescence
silvery-white = nacré
scales = squames
she's gotten over = elle a surmonté